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REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges the final rejection of March 12, 2003 and earnestly requests reconsideration for the reasons given below. No further search or substantial consideration is necessary.

Regarding the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejection of claims 14-15, the Examiner's attention is directed to page 6, lines 21-25 where reference is made to U.S. Patent No. 5,642,302 and U.S. Patent No. 5,695,406, which both show continuously positionable supports. Claims 14 and 15 did not use the exact language used in the specification, and although this could have been done it was not and the claims have been cancelled rather than amended at this late stage.

Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejection of claims 14 and 15 is requested.

* * *

Regarding the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1-2, 5-6, and 10 over Helman (U.S. 5,791,735) in view of Reichlen (U.S. 6,396,497), the Examiner points to column 2, lines 49-52 in the Reichlen reference for the motivation to combine the references. Specifically, Reichlen states that it is an object of the Reichlen invention to make it easy to perform certain computer functions without requiring use of the keyboard or mouse. Reichlen does this with the position sensor 24 shown in Fig. 3 of Reichlen and also Fig. 4. According to Reichlen, the position sensor 24 generates rotation (YAW) information and vertical movement (PITCH) information in response to the movement of the transmitter 26 on the head mounted display 22 with respect to the receiver 28 at the reference point 30. See column 6, lines 20-24.

Thus, there is a motivation in Reichlen to make it easy to perform certain computer functions without requiring use of the

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keyboard or mouse. But there is no hint or suggestion in Reichlen for using a headrest to do this.

There is likewise no hint or suggestion in Reichlen for using a headrest for supporting the head of the user while viewing images from a correspondingly changing direction of view with the head and headrest moving together in the changing direction with respect to a support.

The claimed use of a head rest for supporting the head of the user while viewing images from a correspondingly changing direction of view with the head and headrest moving together in the changing direction with respect to a support is a completely new invention. There is no hint or suggestion of this in Reichlen.

There is certainly no such hint or suggestion in the Helman reference which is from a completely nonanalogous art which does not even qualify as a 35 U.S.C. § 103 reference for that reason alone, regardless of its failure to supply any motivation for the combination proposed by the Examiner.

The Examiner has not pointed to anything in either reference that would provide the required motivation. Therefore, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been made against claims 1 and 10.

Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection of claims 1-2, 5-6 and 10 is requested.

* * *

Regarding the obviousness rejection of claim 8 based on Park (U.S. 5,695,406) in view of Reichlen, the Examiner points to column 5, lines 42-45 for a location of the reference point for head movement sensor being located at the base of the chair. Actually, the location of the reference point 30 at the base of the chair 12, or any other stationary location in the vicinity of the video display system 10 still does not provide the requisite

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motivation of having the head of the user supported by a moveable headrest. There is nothing in either reference that shows the claimed sensor coupled to a moveable headrest for providing the sensed signal having a magnitude indicative of differing directions of view corresponding to the head movements. There is simply nothing whatsoever in the two references to Park and Reichlen that would show or suggest the claimed combination as claimed in claim 8.

Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection of claim 8 is requested.

* * *

Claims 3-4 and 7 which depend from claim 1 and 11-13 which depend from claim 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentably obvious over Helman and Reichlen as previously rejected in claims 1, 2 and 10 in view of Zavracky et al (U.S. 5,673,059).

These claims are all dependent claims and are patentable because the parent claim is patentable as explained above. Furthermore, the Examiner is referred to the comments previously made in response to prior actions about it being hard to see how Zavracky would be relevant to the presently claimed invention.

Zavracky in Fig. 19 item 1372 shows a binary optic element 1358 that is used in such a way as it produces a controlled variation in glass thickness that creates a desired output light pattern by defraction. How this has anything to do with actuating a headrest is very hard to see. The Examiner merely states that it would have been obvious to incorporate the actuator of Zavracky in Helman and Reichlen in order to enhance the virtual reality experience. However, the question is how can a device such as 1358 be used to actuate a headrest and why? If the Examiner persists in this rejection, it is requested that this question be answered.

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Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection of claims 3-4, 7, 11-13 is requested.

Independent claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reichlen in view of Helman and further in view of Zavracky et al.

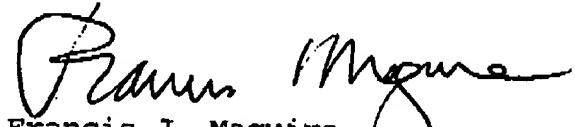
The same comments made above in connection with the previous obviousness rejection are applicable to this rejection as well. Again, the Examiner advances the reason that it would have been obvious to combine the headrest of Helman and actuator of Zavracky et al in Reichlen's in order to perform certain computer functions without requiring the use of a keyboard or mouse instead of referring to column 2, lines 49-52 in Reichlen.

However, Reichlen's motivation not to use a mouse doesn't supply the requisite motivation to combine the headrest of Helman (which has nothing to do with viewing images) with Reichlen. Much less is there any motivation from any of the three references to Reichlen, Helman or Zavracky to use an actuator such as the control variation glass thickness device 1358 of Fig. 9 of Zavracky to actuate a headrest. This does not create a *prima facie* case of obviousness. Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection of claim 9 is requested.

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The objections and rejections of the Official Action of March 12, 2003, having been obviated by amendment or shown to be inapplicable, withdrawal thereof is requested and passage of claims 1-13 to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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